

Shorewood, MN Code of Ordinances

TITLE 700 ANIMAL REGULATIONSCHAPTER 704 PROHIBITION ON FEEDING DEER**CHAPTER 704****PROHIBITION ON FEEDING DEER**

Section

704.01 Purpose704.02 Prohibition on supplemental deer feeding704.03 Exemptions from provisions704.04 Violation**704.01 PURPOSE.**

It is hereby determined that an increasing population of deer within the city poses a threat to public safety by increasing the likelihood of deer-vehicle collisions, and the transmission of diseases to humans from deer; poses a threat to native plant and animal life by excessive foraging which disturbs natural ecological balances; and poses a threat to the quality of life by deer-related damage to landscaping and vegetable gardens. This chapter is intended to reduce these threats by restricting supplemental feeding of deer, which results in unnatural concentrations of deer and can affect the normal movement of deer within the community. It is not the intent of this chapter to regulate the recreational feeding of birds.

(Ord. 478, passed 8-22-2011)

704.02 PROHIBITION ON SUPPLEMENTAL DEER FEEDING.

No resident may place or permit to be placed on the ground, or within five feet of the ground surface any grain, fodder, salt licks, fruit, vegetables, nuts, seeds, hay or other edible materials which may reasonably be expected to intentionally result in deer feeding, unless such items are screened or protected in a manner that prevents deer from feeding on them. Living fruit trees and other live vegetation shall not be considered as supplemental deer feeding.

(Ord. 478, passed 8-22-2011)

704.03 EXEMPTIONS FROM PROVISIONS.

The prohibition described in § 704.02, above shall not apply to:

- Subd. 1. Veterinarians, city animal control officials or county, state or federal game officials who are in the course of their duties and have deer in their custody or under their management;
- Subd. 2. Persons authorized by the City of Shorewood to implement the Deer Management Program approved by the City Council; or
- Subd. 3. Any food placed upon the property for purposes of trapping or otherwise taking deer where such trapping or taking is pursuant to a permit issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

(Ord. 478, passed 8-22-2011)

704.04 VIOLATION.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a Class A Offense, pursuant to § 104.03 of this code.

(Ord. 478, passed 8-22-2011)

Disclaimer:

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CITY OF TONKA BAY DEER/TURKEY SURVEY RESULTS

Total No. Surveys Received: 87

Survey Question Responses

Note: some questions were unanswered

QUESTION	YES	NO
1. Do you think the City of Tonka Bay has an overpopulation of deer?	26	59
2. Should the City prohibit the feeding of deer?	46	38
3. Should the City contract to reduce the population of deer in the City?	24	59
4. Do you think the City of Tonka Bay has an overpopulation of turkeys?	21	62
5. Should the City prohibit the feeding of turkeys?	33	43
6. Should the City contract to reduce the population of turkeys in the City	17	69

Streets represented:

No address listed (21)	Pearl Street
Birch Bluff Road (4)	Pleasant Avenue (5)
Circle Road (2)	Pleasant Lane East
Clay Cliffe Drive	Pleasant Lane West
Crabapple Lane	Sunrise Avenue (3)
Echo Bay Drive (3)	Tonka Bay Lane (2)
Florence Drive	Waseca Avenue
Highland Avenue (3)	West Point Circle
Hillcrest Drive	West Point Court (4)
Interlachen Lane	West Point Drive (6)
Lakeview Avenue (2)	West Point Road (2)
Lilah Lane	Wildhurst Road (4)
Manitou Road (9)	Woodlawn Avenue (2)
Mound Avenue	Woodpecker Ridge Road (3)

Additional Comments:

1. Some want to cut more trees and make the city less interesting. We are lucky to have the few wild animals that populate our area. The deer eat my hostas and arborvitae – so what!
2. Deer are causing damage to landscaping and pose a threat to small children.
3. The feeding brings our raccoons (numerous) and other critters.
4. I think the numbers vary by year – sometimes a lot, sometimes rarely see.
5. It's bad enough that Shorewood has a deer hunt in marshes and parks that I'm walking my dog in, but there's no notification that it's going on to warn me. I moved out here because of the wildlife.
6. We don't see many in our neighborhood (Lakeview Avenue).
7. I do have deer in my yard on occasion but less than monthly. Have not seen a turkey here (Crabapple Lane).

8. I think there are a total of six deer in the City (one family). They eat our plants, but we don't need to kill them because of that!!
9. Wild animals should forage for themselves or move along. Limit human interaction as much as possible. They pose no immediate threat.
10. Let nature be nature.
11. Feeding of turkeys could draw deer to those feeders.
12. How could you regulate feeding deer & turkey – they can't read.
13. #3 – depending on cost – no new taxes
14. I do not see a problem with wildlife. I am more troubled by the mobs of cyclists violating traffic laws.
15. If you do shoot deer, make it only does. Shorewood shooter was walking in my yard without asking. Scared my wife.
16. The problem for many is the geese and ducks – Medicine Lake does not allow any feeding of animals, and their water quality has improved.
17. Focus City Hall energy on excessive automobile traffic and excessive speed on Birch Bluff Road.
18. We enjoy the wildlife and consider it a blessing for us to enjoy and appreciate. Yes, sometimes my flowers are eaten but a fence works. Thank you for asking.
19. The turkeys are not a problem for me at all. The deer eat many of my plants. If people are feeding them, they aren't getting full. I don't want to see them killed for eating my hostas.
20. I don't know if the City is overpopulated. I do know we've only seen three in the last 2-3 years in our area.
21. Deer population is too extreme! Out of control! Big problem!
22. We live on Woodlawn Avenue. I have never seen a turkey and a couple of deer only several times.
23. I recommend getting from the DNR area wildlife person
24. Part of the reason we moved here is because of the trees and animals. Please do not let one neighbor cause drastic changes.
25. What a waste of time!
26. We love the deer and turkeys in Tonka Bay.
27. My family actually enjoys the wildlife and not found them to be a problem.
28. Let people feed the critters; manage the population as needed.
29. Please take care of this problem. The animal feces are dangerous for our pets and children. Thank you!
30. There were 31 turkeys in my yard this morning (Highland Avenue)! Gobble gobble
31. I like to watch them behind my house.
32. Don't feed any wild animals.
33. Friends and neighbors enjoy feeding and watching deer.
34. We've happily co-existed the past several years with herds of deer ranging in numbers from 5-14. They're beautiful, interesting creatures, and their presence adds to the enjoyment of life in Tonka Bay. Deer repellent keeps landscape damage to a minimum. Our local environment is becoming more sterile by the year. Please don't go overboard by killing the deer. Thanks!
35. The damage and feces left by these animals is a health hazard.
36. The turkeys are actually aggressive towards people now. Do not feed wild animals!
37. Overpopulation of deer makes it impossible for the neighbors to plant flowers in the summer. They continue to eat them all summer. The deer roam in our yard with their babies.
38. It is nice to see them even though I have to wait for them to cross the road.
39. We enjoy watching the wildlife. It seems like the population is already down from years past.

40. There is only one group of turkeys (8-ish). There is only a small group of deer! Not a problem. They eat my hostas – no big deal! Tell the complainers to move to the city where there is a lot of cement and no wildlife!
41. There are more urgent and important issues to address such as pedestrian safety on our roads. Raccoons are more of a problem!!
42. Turkeys are become aggressive toward people again. Don't turn your back!
43. Feeding wild animals facilitates aggressive behaviors in wild animals.
44. Who feeds the Deer? Prohibit is a strong term. How would it be enforced? How about educating residents on the harm they do feeding the wild animals. The deer have been dangerous on County Road 19. What defines overpopulation for a bird? Who feeds the turkeys? Why contract? Or reduce the population of the raccoons, squirrels...
45. The deer and rabbits eat my flowers but any anti-animal spray seems to work – having wild animals around is nice.
46. I've seen deer and turkey car accidents. I have had near miss accidents myself. We currently have 19 turkeys pass through our yard daily. They are mean.
47. Thanks for doing this and asking us. If my yard count represents this year's normal, I would say the herd is down by 75-80%, and as such, is acceptable but defines a management point for the herd in future years.
48. If you feed birds, do you by default feed the turkeys?
49. Please take care of this problem as soon as possible,
50. I hunt and feel that wild animal population control may be necessary in certain circumstances but I do not feel that our city is experiencing any health or safety issues regarding our deer and turkey populations. Our herds appear healthy. There aren't numerous (if any) deer and car collisions in our city and from what I have seen, there are seemingly fewer deer this year than in previous years. If people in the city are worried about their landscaping being eaten, they shouldn't live in the suburbs or they should consider installing a fence. I also don't believe there is enough open public space to safely hunt the deer or turkeys. I do think there is plenty of scientific evidence that suggests that feeding the deer can spread disease or cause the deer health problems and; therefore, the practice of feeding the deer should be outlawed.
51. We have lived out here all summer, fall and winter. We have seen two deer in that time and one turkey! We enjoy seeing the wildlife.

Last updated: January 8, 2015